THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"*Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice.*"

No. 536 *Tuesday, Aug.* 12, 1823. *Price* 1*d.*

HAY-MARKET.

THE new Operatic Comedy of *Sweethearts and Wives*, never went off with better effect, than it did last night, on its 25th performance. This piece does not pretend to a very deep interest, nor are its dialogue and situations always of the first order, either in intrinsic quality or novelty; but there is a saving humor in LISTON's character of *Billy Lackaday*, and in the *old Admiral* of TERRY, together with a charm in the *Ladies*, and a respectability in the other departments, that keep the Piece pleasantly going, and every now and then the coming yawn is converted into a smile, or a horse-laugh, until it terminates with a little bit of pathos, and the good old English jacky-tar Saturday night's toast of "Sweethearts and Wives," which the *gods* relish, and the *John Bulls* of the Pit also like, for it puts them in mind of *Britannia* and *Neptune*, and a two-days voyage to Margate, in old times, when steam-packets did'nt enable them to keep at business till Saturday evening, yet reach the Isle of Thanet to dinner on Sunday. There were a vast number of people very much entertained with this musical farcical comedy, and its succeeding pieces of *Mrs. Smith*, and *The Review*. In the latter, HARLEY, as *Caleb Quotem*, was exceedingly humorous, and loquacious.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

THE performance of *Presumption*, "*I will have a Wife*," and *The Miller's Maid*, attracted a crowd hither last night, and each produced its wonted share of applause, various encores, &c.

MR. MATHEWS.

We are happy to announce to our readers, that the celebrated Mr. MATHEWS, will re-appear at this Theatre on Monday next. Mr. ARNOLD has, we understand, engaged this extraordinary actor for a limited period, and he is to perform all his best parts; in addition to which, he will treat the public with a few of his own peculiar pieces---"*The Polly Packet*," with its sea-sick inmates—"*La Diligence*," with its whimsical passengers---and the last successful Entertainment, "*Stories*," with its various laughable incidents, will be exhibited in rotation.

The Manager has felt it necessary to issue the following Notice:---

"TO THE PLAY-GOING PUBLIC!

"WHEREAS a scurrilous Posting-bill has been industriously circulated throughout the Metropolis, intended to injure the interests of *The English Opera-House*, by gross misrepresentations respecting the new Romantic Drama, entitled "*PRESUMPTION! or, the FATE OF FRANKENSTEIN.*" The Public is respectfully requested not to suffer their judgments to be influenced by this malignant and unjust attack.

"It is to be remembered that the *Right Honorable the Lord Chamberlain* sanctioned the Piece by granting his Licence, which Licence would certainly *have been witheld*, had the Drama been of an IMMORAL TENDENCY.---The piece also continues to be performed to crowded and fashionable Audiences; and whatever difference of opinion may exist respecting its merits as a dramatic work, not one Critic has objected to it on the score of morality.

"The "*Few zealous Friends of Morality*" are CAUTIONED, (under legal opinions) that although there may not be grounds on the part of the Theatre for a Prosecution for a Libel, yet an Action for *a Conspiracy* will perhaps effectually silence "*the Promoters of a Posting-bill,*" distinguished by falsehood and hypocritical cant.

English Opera-House, Aug. 9, 1823."

VAUXHALL.—Remember, all who would be enchanted, to-night is the night of nights!---The Royal Gala!

SADLER'S WELLS.—It is positively announced in the bills of this Theatre, that in consequence of the forthcoming novelties, the attractive Pieces, *The Smoked Miser*, and *Harlequin every Where*, must be withdrawn after this week.

SURRY THEATRE.—This Theatre considerably improved, was opened last night for the season. The Company combine much talent, and the Pieces went off with general approbation. The house was filled in every part at an early hour.

COBURG THEATRE.—Last night a new melo-dramatic romance, entitled *Thalaba the Destroyer*, was brought out at this House. Mr. HUNTLEY, as *Thalaba*, called forth loud approbation. Miss EDMISTON, personated the heroine, *Oneira*, and drew down thunders of applause. The house was well attended.

DAVIS'S AMPHITHEATRE.—The boat annually given by the inhabitants of Lambeth, will be rowed for this day, and presented to the fortunate winner, on the stage of this Theatre, with appropriate ceremony.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE great encouragement this Publication has met with for a period of nearly two years, has occasioned attempts to be made to rival it by imitations of form and style. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested to our friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by having another Paper thrust into their hands as "THE THEATRICAL OBSERVER."

Printed by E. THOMAS, Denmark Court, Exeter 'Change, Strand.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Opera of The

Barber of Seville.

Count Almaviva, Mr VINING,
Figaro, Mr LISTON,
Fiorello, Mr. LEONI LEE, Basil, Mr BROUGH,
Doctor Bartolo, Mr WILLIAMS,
Argus, Mr HAMMOND, Tallboy, Mr EBSWORTH,
Officer, Mr Latham, Notary, Mr Bristow,
Alguazil, Mr Coveney,

Serenaders, Soldiers, & Alguazils,

Mess. Wynne, C. Jones, Coates, Bristow, Saunders,
Hemes, Moor, Benedict.
Marcellina, Mrs GARRICK,
Rosina, Miss PATON,

After which, The favorite Comedy of

Pigeons and Crows.

Sir Peter Pigwiggin, Mr LISTON,
Captain Pigwiggin, alias Neville, Mr VINING,
Mr Muz, Mr WILLIAMS, Tom, Mr COVENEY,
Mr Blondeau, Mr W. WEST,
Mr Wadd, Mr HAMMOND, Bailiff, Mr Ebsworth
Patrick O'Rorogoroo, Mr LEE,
Mary, Mrs C. JONES,
Mrs Harvey, Mrs JONES,
Louisa, Mrs CHATTERLEY,

To-morrow, Sweethearts and Wives, with Love, Law, and Physic.

Theatre Royal English Opera House.

This Evening will be performed, (13th time) a new Romance, with new Music, Scenes, Dresses, and Decorations, called

Presumption.

De Lacey, *a banished Gentleman*, Mr ROWBOTHAM,
Felix De Lacey, *(his son)* Mr PEARMAN,
Frankenstein, Mr WALLACK.
Clerval, Mr J. BLAND, Fritz, Mr KEELEY,
Hammerpan, Mr SALTER, Tanskin, Mr SHIELD,
Gypsey, Mr. H. PHILLIPS,
William, *Master Boden*, Guide, *Mr R. Phillips*.
(————) Mr. T. P. COOKE,
Elizabeth, [*Sister of Frankenstein*] Mrs AUSTIN,
Agatha de Lacey, Miss L. DANCE,
Madame Ninon, [*Wife of Fritz*] Mrs J. WEIPPERT,
Safie, [*an Arabian Girl*] Miss HOLDAWAY

After which, the Farce of

Is He Jealous?

Mr Belmour, Mr WRENCH,
Servants, Messrs LODGE, and POVEY,
Harriet, Miss KELLY,
Mrs Belmour, Miss CARR, Rose, Mrs WEIPPERT.

To conclude with, (5th time) a new Comic Entertainment, called,

"I will have a Wife."

Admiral Firedrake, Mr BARTLEY. Binnacle, Mr J. KNIGHT.
Capt. Firedrake, Mr PEARMAN, Mr Dennis O'Leary, Mr POWER
Harry Merton, *(alias Billy Badger)* Mr BAKER,
Mrs Ogleby, Mrs GROVE, Emily Rosebank, Miss POVEY,
Mrs Summerfield, Miss L. DANCE, Isabella Hardy, Miss CARR.

To-morrow, Presumption,—" I will have a Wife,—The Miller's Maid